

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A method for producing ascopyrone P, which comprises heating ~~a solution~~ an aqueous solution of 1,5-D-anhydrofructose at a pH of 10 or less and a temperature of 100°C or higher.
2. **(Original)** The method of claim 1, wherein the heating is conducted at a temperature of 120°C or higher.
3. **(Original)** The method of claim 1, wherein the heating is conducted for 1 second to 24 hours.
4. **(Original)** The method of claim 1, wherein the pH of 10 or less is a pH of 2 to less than 7.
5. **(Original)** The method of claim 1, wherein the pH of 10 or less is a pH of 2 to 4.
6. **(Original)** The method of claim 1, wherein the heating is conducted in the presence of an antioxidant.
7. **(Original)** The method of claim 6, wherein the antioxidant is at least one selected from the group consisting of ascorbic acid, erythorbic acid, ethylenediamine tetraacetic acid, and their salts.